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REVIEW, X, 152-161). It is also much to be regretted that the few Hebrew words quoted have been for the most part greatly misrepresented through printers' errors.

Although Pereferkowitsch's book has many faults and gaps, it must, nevertheless, be admitted that, on the whole, he has fulfilled his task in a satisfactory manner. There is no doubt but that the author will, in the course of his labour, gain in depth and completeness. It is, therefore, to be wished, that the continuation of the work will follow soon, the more so as it is the first attempt of the kind ever made in a Slavonic language.

SAMUEL POZNAŃSKI.

WARSAW, November 23, 1897.

NEW ARAMAIC DICTIONARY.

ערוך הכרש (so). *Aramäisch-Neuhebräisches Wörterbuch zu Targum, Talmud u. Midrasch mit Vokalisation der targumischen Wörter nach süd-arabischen HSS., u. besonderer Bezeichnung des Wortschatzes des Onkelostargums*, unter Mitwirkung von P. THEODOR SCHÄRF, bearbeitet von Dr. GUSTAF H. DALMAN. Th. I. Mit Lexicon der Abbreviaturen von G. H. HÄNDLER. (Frankfort-on-the-Main, J. Kauffmann, 1897, pp. xii, 180, and 128. 8vo.)

ALTHOUGH such a profusion of dictionaries of the Targums and rabbinical scriptures is already in existence that a new one might appear superfluous, yet the above mentioned one (of which only one half has as yet been published) brings with it several good credentials. While omitting all etymological discussions, excepting the originals of words borrowed from Greek, it confines itself to the bare translation of the vocables. By this means the work has been so condensed that it will be within the reach of nearly every student interested in the subject. An important improvement, however, upon all its predecessors is the following. The appearance of numerous Yemen MSS. with superlinear vocalization led to a new examination of the whole work of Targumic grammar and lexicography, chiefly in connexion with Onkelos. The significance of these MSS. for a more critical treatment of the Targums was pointed out very strikingly in Prof. Merx's *Chrestomathia Targumica*, but it was left to Dr. H. Barnstein to start a systematic collation of the new MSS. with the standard editions of Onkelos. The result of his researches demonstrated clearly the superiority of the Yemen recensions over the European ones. Prof. Dalman's own studies in

this field, which resulted in a Grammar and Reading-book of the Judæo-Palestine dialect, are now crowned by this dictionary, which cannot fail to thoroughly modify the method of vocalization hitherto applied both in similar works and editions of texts. The uncertainty of long or short vowels, position or omission of Dagesh, which has up till now formed such a strong opposition to every sense of grammar and fostered innumerable blunders, has received a salutary check. There can be no doubt that Prof. Dalman's work means a great step forward in the clearing up of an apparently hopeless confusion.

Needless to say the author has not limited his attention to Yemen MSS. alone, but has used the whole stock of MSS. and old prints accessible. For the sake of completeness in this respect it is regrettable that he was precluded from availing himself of the fine Codex Montefiore (Halberstam) 116, containing the Targums of the Prophets and Hagiographa, of which the former owner, Luzzatto, has given a short description in Geiger's *Wissenschaftliche Zeitschrift*, vol. V, p. 132. The MS., although unvocalized and somewhat disfigured by the ignorance of the copyist, will prove of great value, when it has once more been unearthed from the vaults of the Ramsgate banker. The few specimens of the Book of Proverbs which I have before me offer a large number of important variations in the printed editions.

The arrangement of words in Dalman's Dictionary is strictly alphabetical, to meet the requirements of the beginner. Whether this method be more desirable than the arrangement according to roots is open to discussion. For my own part I should have preferred the latter. Of quotations those from Onkelos are given in full, from other Targums only occasionally. Prolonged use will bring out the excellences and the weak points of the work, although one must already state, that the former preponderate to such an extent as to exclude all but a few of the latter. We must not omit to mention Professor Dalman's learned collaborators, viz. P. Th. Schärf and Dr. H. Barnstein, to whom also gratitude is due for the share they have had in the completion of this opportune work. Turning to some details I should think that, *s. v.* בעל, the meaning "husband" preceded that of "master." ברבא (p. 60) "Gelehrtentitel" seems to be too sweeping a translation. At any rate it does not apply to Lev. xxi. 4 where many editions have רבא.

The Dictionary of Abbreviations attached to the work owes its origin to the assiduity of the Rev. G. H. Händler in London, who also embodied the collections of Prof. Dalman in his compilation. The work can be pronounced without hesitation as the most complete of its kind, containing as it does about 7000 abbreviations with

twice as many solutions. The liberty which Jewish authors and editors take in the use of old and invention of new abbreviations is to be deplored rather than encouraged, and much time is often wasted in deciphering abbreviations of minor importance which are outside the pale of technicalities. Through the labour of the latest compilers there are now few abbreviations left for which one need look in vain in his book, e.g. ששים=ס and a few more letters. It is rather strange that he gives the popular interpretation of תיקו and תיובתא without any further remark. The author betrays such intimate acquaintance with the Rabbinical literature that we may hope to receive from him some day a study on a less dry subject.

The book is exceedingly well got up and is sure to gain many friends.

H. HIRSCHFELD.